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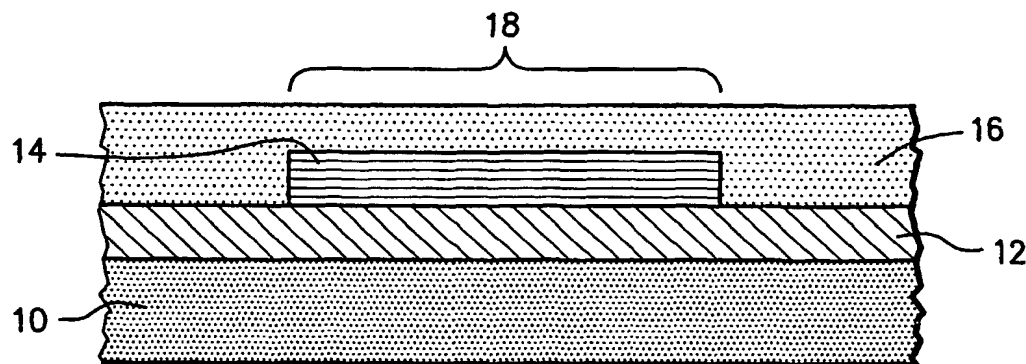
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(54) Title: POLARISING LIQUID CRYSTAL DEVICE FOR SECURITY DOCUMENTS



(57) Abstract: A polarising liquid crystal device comprises a substrate (10), at least one photo-alignment layer (12) which is uniformly aligned with a polarised light source and a nematic liquid crystal layer (14) applied to the photo-alignment layer (12). A latent image (18;48;78) which is viewable under cross-polarisers is formed by the photo-alignment layer (12) and the liquid crystal layer (14) without the aid of a mask by a variable printing or laser writing process.